

MINUTES OF THE SENATE FEDERAL AND STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Pete Brungardt at 10:30 a.m. on March 18, 2008 in Room 526-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:
Senator Vratil.

Committee staff present:
Kathie Sparks, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Dennis Hodgins, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Melissa Doeblin, Revisor of Statutes Office
Theresa Kiernan, Revisor of Statutes Office
Connie Burns, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:
Senator Barbara Allen
Sally Howard, Governor's Chief Counsel
Joan Wagon, Secretary of Revenue
Carmen Alldritt, Department of Motor Vehicles

Others attending:
See attached list.

Introduction of Bill:

Senator Ostemyer requested a bill introduction regarding veterans and a proper military burial.

Senator Ostemyer moved that this request should be introduced as a committee bill. Senator Reitz seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Senator Derek Schmidt requested a bill introduction conceptually helping Wilson County and communities to begin addressing serious industrial contamination and related issues. (Attachment 1)

Senator Lynn moved that this request should be introduced as a committee bill. Senator Barnett seconded the motion. The motion carried.

SB 659 - State officers and legislators, salaries and compensation increases; establishing a legislative compensation commission and abolishing the existing compensation commission; certain expense allowances and multi-year market adjustments

Chairman Brungardt opened the hearing on **SB 659**.

Senator Barbara Allen spoke in favor of the bill. (Attachment 2) The bill in New Section 1 would create a Legislative Compensation Commission consisting of seven members who would have the duty to make a study of the per diem compensation of the members of the Kansas Legislature. The commission will submit a report to the LCC and to the Governor and any member of the legislature could decline to accept any or all of the recommended increase in compensation. New Section 2 would increase the salary for statewide officeholders in Kansas, based on the current national average for each office, excluding California. A list was provided of the proposed salaries and a letter from Legislative Research on Elected Officials' Compensation.

Sally Howard, Governor's General Counsel, appeared neutral on the bill with an amendment. (Attachment 3) To support a Legislative Pay Commission to review current salary and consider the Attorney General's (AG) significant pay disparity be resolved. The Administration believes that the AG of Kansas should have a salary that is equal to that of the District Court Judges and the District Attorneys.

Chairman Brungardt closed the hearing on **SB 659**.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE Senate Federal and State Affairs Committee at 10:30 a.m. on March 18, 2008 in Room 526-S of the Capitol.

SB 677 - Prescribing fees for the photo fee fund

Chairman Brungardt opened the hearing on **SB 677**.

Secretary Joan Wagon, Department of Revenue, and Carmen Alldritt, Department of Motor Vehicles, appeared in favor of the bill. (Attachment 4) The bill would increase the maximum fee the Department of Revenue may charge for a photo fee from \$4 to \$12. The increase would be used for Security Identity Management activities and to pay costs associated with bringing Kansas into compliance with the federal Real ID Act.

Chairman Brungardt closed the hearing on **SB 677**.

Final Action:

Sub HB 2562 - Veterans preference law revision

A balloon was provided that would cover a spouse, definition of disabled veteran, and the pay grade. (Attachment 5)

Senator Barnett moved to amended the year change on page 4 line 16 to 2011. Senator Reitz seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Senator Barnett moved to adopt the amended balloon. Senator Reitz seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Senator Barnett moved to pass **Senate Sub for HB 2562** out favorably as amended. Senator Reitz seconded the motion. The motion carried.

SB 675 - Cities; fee authorized for credit card use

A balloon amendment was provided by staff. (Attachment 6) The second paragraph of the new language on line 18 is deleted.

Senator Reitz moved to adopt the amended balloon. Senator Barnett seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Senator Reitz moved to pass **SB 675** out favorably as amended. Senator Barnett seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 am. The next scheduled meeting is March 19, 2008.